

(The annotations to the present game, by M. M. Yudovich, are from *Shakhmaty v SSSR* (№ 2, 1957), in an editorial article entitled *Uspekh yunogo shakhmatista*. The translation from the original Russian is by Douglas Griffin.)

## THE SUCCESS OF A YOUNG CHESSPLAYER

Among the participants in the New York tournament, particular attention was attracted by the 13-year-old schoolboy R. Fischer. One of his games, in which he won a victory over D. Byrne, was awarded a special prize as the most beautiful in the tournament.

R. Fischer was born in the year 1943. He learned to play chess at an early age. Fischer was the youngest among the participants in the USA Junior Championship, which took place in the summer of last year. Despite this, he led throughout the whole competition and gained the title of champion. Then Fischer took part in two tournaments for adult chessplayers – the ‘Open’ Championships of the USA and Canada. In both tournaments the young chessplayer finished ahead of many well-known masters.

At the same time, it should be noted that a fanfare has been created around the name of Fischer in the USA. Newspaper articles, and radio and television transmissions have been dedicated to him. Fischer tours the country, appearing in simultaneous displays. This can hardly facilitate the normal development of the undoubtedly talented young chessplayer.

### D. Byrne – Fischer

8<sup>th</sup> round, New York (Rosenwald), 20<sup>th</sup> October 1956

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.d4 0–0 5.Bf4 d5 6.Qb3**

Via a transposition of moves there has arisen a well-known position from the Grünfeld Defence that has often been encountered in the games of various tournaments. Developing the queen at b3, White strives to increase the pressure on the centre, in order to force Black either to exchange at c4 or to defend the d5-pawn with ...c7–c6. In the first case White can create a pawn centre, advancing the pawn to e4. The continuation 6...c6 hinders for Black the development of counter-play associated with ...c7–c5.

The impression could be created that the move 6.Qb3 has only advantages. Such an opinion would be incorrect. There is the old principle of opening strategy, which states that the queen, as a rule, should not be brought into play at an early stage. The negative sides of the queen manoeuvre can be detected here too.

**6...dxc4 7.Qxc4 c6 8.e4 Nbd7**

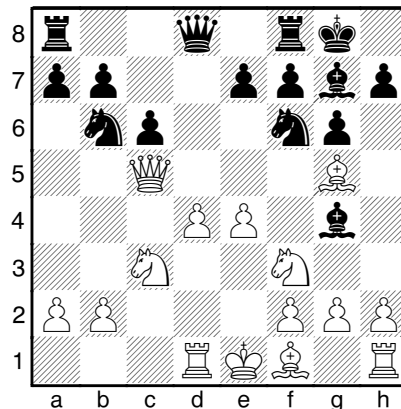
The insouciance of youth. Evidently, the 13-year-old Fischer (there is a note about him above) had still not learned from experience, just what the opponent’s strong centre signifies.

According to the advice of I. Boleslavsky, here it is essential to play 8...b5 9.Qb3 Qa5. 10...b4 is threatened, while on 10.Bd2 possible is such a variation: 10...b4 11.Na4 Nxe4 12.Bxb4 Qh5 13.Be2 Ba6 with interesting mutual possibilities. If instead of 9.Bd2 White plays 10.Bd3, then on this Black can reply 10...Be6 11.Qd1 Bg4 12.0-0 Rd8, and White's centre is unsteady.

### 9.Rd1 Nb6 10.Qc5

D. Byrne has probably decided, already in the opening, to confuse his opponent. Otherwise he would have played simply 10.Qd3 and on 10...Be6 – 11.Be2, which after 11...Bc4 12.Qc2 gave White an excellent position.

### 10...Bg4 11.Bg5



Some masters consider that the general principles of playing the opening were written not for them, but for beginner chessplayers. A dangerous delusion! Piece development, the struggle for the centre – this is not a stereotyped general idea, but a necessary element of chess strategy that has been proven by experience.

White should have played simply 11.Be2. The move played by D. Byrne permits Black to carry out a beautiful combinational attack.

### 11...Na4!

Clever and very strong. Deserved retribution awaits White for his pretentious play.

### 12.Qa3

With a heavy heart, White had to reject the continuation 12.Nxa4 Nxe4. Now disappointing is 13.Bxe7 (13.Qc1 Qa5+ or first 13...Bxf3 and then 14...Qa5+) 13...Nxc5 14.Bxd8 Nxa4, and White does not avoid material loss, as is 13.Qxe7 Qxe7 (also good is 13...Qa5+) 14.Bxe7 Rfe8.

After the move in the game Black's attack develops forcibly. It was better for White to play 12.Qb4.

12...Nxc3 13.bxc3

Nor is White rescued by 13.Bxf6 in view of 13...Nxd1 14.Bxe7 Qb6, and material losses for White are inevitable.

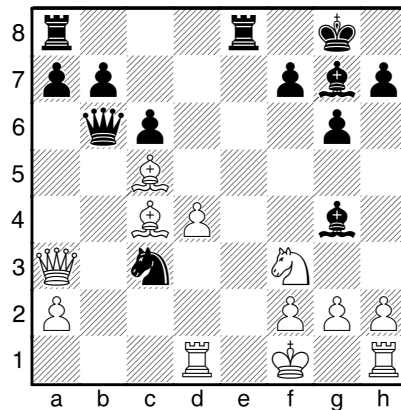
13...Nxe4 14.Bxe7

On 14.Qxe7 Black could play 14...Qxe7 15.Bxe7 Rfe8.

14...Qb6 15.Bc4?

Astonishing nonchalance. Naturally, better was 15.Be2, closing the e-file. The tempting 15.Bxf8 left Black with a clear advantage after 15...Bxf8 16.Qb3 Nxc3!.

15...Nxc3 16.Bc5 Rfe8+ 17.Kf1



17...Be6!

Still another extremely unpleasant surprise for White. R. Fischer conducts the attack excellently. The variations 18.Bxe6 Qb5+ and 18.Qxc3 Qxc5 are prospectless, and therefore D. Byrne decides to take the queen.

18.Bxb6 Bxc4+ 19.Kg1 Ne2+ 20.Kf1 Nxd4+ 21.Kg1 Ne2+ 22.Kf1 Nc3+ 23.Kg1 axb6 24.Qb4 Ra4 25.Qxb6

White's position is completely hopeless, and R. Fischer confidently realises his advantage.

25...Nxd1 26.h3 Rxa2 27.Kh2 Nxf2 28.Re1 Rxe1 29.Qd8+ Bf8 30.Nxe1 Bd5 31.Nf3 Ne4 32.Qb8 b5 33.h4 h5 34.Ne5 Kg7 35.Kg1 Bc5+ 36.Kf1

The remainder could be a good illustration in a section in a textbook called 'mating a lone king'.

36...Ng3+ 37.Ke1 Bb4+ 38.Kd1 Bb3+ 39.Kc1 Ne2+ 40.Kb1 Nc3+ 41.Kc1 Rc2#

In spite of the mistakes committed by White, or rather even thanks to them – an instructive game.